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bles. The detailed index to Sainéan's first work, and the etymological glossary at the end of his *Sources* make it easy to utilize this valuable series as a dictionary of "pedlars' French"—the first dictionary on scientific principles that we possess.

In his *Religions, Mœurs et Légendes*, 4me série (Paris, Mercure de France, 1912), A. van Gennep includes a long essay on the *Légendes populaires et Chansons de Geste en Savoie*. The fourth chapter of this essay, "Le Cycle d'Arthur," offers an ingenious, if not wholly convincing, explanation of the presence in Savoy of two Arthurian knights who fight a monstrous cat. The chapter is of especial interest, both because of van Gennep's familiarity with the folk-lore of the region, a familiarity the beginnings of which date back to his school-boy days in the lycées of Savoy, and because he utilizes, in part, Mr. Bédier's theories regarding the pilgrim routes. A. S.

Professor Jespersen's *Elementarbuch der Phonetik* (Leipzig, Teubner, 1912. 187 pp.) constitutes a revised and condensed edition of his *Lehrbuch* of 1904. Nothing essential has been omitted and there is even a gain in the clearness of presentation. The Jespersen system of alphabetic symbols is of course retained, and forms the basis of arrangement for the treatment of the sounds. This facilitates and shortens sound analysis, and tends to direct attention to phonetic similarities and differences that usually pass unnoticed. For the beginner, the multiplicity of symbols (alphabetic and international-phonetic) is liable to confuse more than it helps, but for those who have a competent guide or some preliminary knowledge this feature will readily change from an obstacle to an aid. The book is rich in helpful suggestions and well repays reading. The decimal system of paragraph numbering, first used in Jespersen's *Modern English Grammar*, is to be commended to prospective makers of text-books.

OBITUARY

WILLIAM HAND BROWNE

Dr. William Hand Browne, Professor (Emeritus since 1910) of English Literature in the Johns Hopkins University, died on the morning of December 13, 1912. He was born De-

cember 31, 1828, and had therefore almost completed the eighty-fourth year of his age. Like so many men of letters, Dr. Browne was first trained for one of the standard professions, and then turned from the practical pursuit opened to him to follow the more authoritative dictates of his nature. After his graduation as M. D. (University of Maryland, 1850), he began his career as critic and historian, in which he won early recognition. Shortly after the war, Dr. Browne was for a decade especially interested in re-establishing the literary magazines of the South. In 1866 he joined the Rev. Albert Taylor Bledsoe in founding *The Southern Review* [New Series; Vol. I, Baltimore, Bledsoe and Browne, 1867]. He had a share also in the inauguration of *The New Eclectic*, a monthly magazine of select literature (Vol. I, Jan.-Apr., 1868; Baltimore), which was continued, under the editorship of Dr. Browne, from 1871 (Vol. 8) to 1875 (Vol. 17) with the changed name, *The Southern Magazine*. A member, meanwhile, of the Maryland Historical Society, Dr. Browne came to be the acknowledged authoritative historian of his native State. By the authority of the State and under the direction of this Society Dr. Browne accomplished the most important work of his life in editing the *Archives of Maryland* (32 large volumes, 1883-1912).

Dr. Browne was first connected with the Johns Hopkins University as Principal Librarian, 1879-1880. In the next year he began to take part in the instruction in English Literature, and in the course of the years his official designations were: Librarian and Associate, 1880-1891; Associate Professor, 1891-1893; Professor, 1893-1910; Professor Emeritus, 1910-1912. As Librarian and thereafter as a member of the Library Committee, he rendered admirable service; but he rapidly became more and more engaged in teaching. His wide and varied culture and his peculiarly attractive personality combined to make his instruction especially valuable and effective. Although not young in years when he began to teach, Dr. Browne was always young in spirit and in alertness of mind. He assimilated new knowledge with notable eagerness, and to the last maintained a keen interest in promoting accuracy of knowledge. His contributions to *Mod. Lang Notes* extend from the first volume to the last number, issued after his death. This persistent activity, shown especially in the publication, just before his death, of the last volume of the *Archives of Maryland*, exemplified that beneficence of the intellectual life which, in the words of Emerson, 'redeems us in a degree from the conditions of time.'